

Remarks

Reconsideration and allowance in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested. Applicants respectfully thank the Examiner for the allowance of claims 17-27.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-28 are pending in the application, with 1, 17 and 28 being the independent claims. Applicants seek to amend claims 1 and 28. Unless otherwise indicated, the claim amendments are for purposes of clarity and not to overcome any rejection in the Office Action. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Applicants also submit a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement herewith.

Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-3, 5-6, 11, 13, and 28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. Sec. 102(e) as being anticipated by Jain (U.S. Patent No. 6,870,554). Applicants traverse this rejection because the cited reference fails to disclose, teach, or suggest all the features of the claimed invention.

For example, the cited reference fails to disclose, teach, or suggest an apparatus or method wherein a radiation distribution device sequentially directs a respective portion of the radiation from an illumination system to each of a plurality of radiation distribution channels in turn, as recited in claims 1 and 28.

If a future Office Action rejects claims 1 and 28, Applicants respectfully request that the Office Action specifically point out in the cited reference an apparatus and method wherein a radiation distribution device sequentially directs a respective portion of the radiation from an illumination system to each of a plurality of radiation distribution channels in turn.

It is respectfully pointed out that anticipation can only be established by a single prior art reference that discloses each and every element of the claimed invention. RCA Corp. v. Applied Digital Data Systems, Inc., 730 F.2d 1440 (Fed. Cir. 1984). Therefore, since the cited reference fails to recite each and every element of Applicants' invention as required in claims 1 and 28, claims 1 and 28 are not anticipated by the cited reference and are therefore allowable. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1 and 28 are, therefore, respectfully requested.

Claims 2-3, 5-6, 11, and 13 depend from claim 1 and are therefore allowable at least for the reasons claim 1 is allowable and for the specific features recited therein.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 12 and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. Sec. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jain. Claims 12 and 14 depend from claim 1 and are therefore allowable for the specific features recited therein, for those features are non-obvious too.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 12 and 14 are requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Office Action indicated that claims 4, 7-10, and 15-16 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim(s) and

any intervening claims. Applicants, however, choose not to rewrite claims 4, 7-10, and 15-16 at this time.

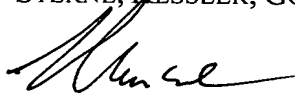
Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Theodore A. Wood
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 52,374

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1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934
(202) 371-2600

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